



News Release

United States Navy

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7:30 p.m. Pacific Time

Coriolis Mission Continues to process for Sunday launch Mission to be WebCast



The Air Force Coriolis mission waits on Vandenberg's Space Launch Complex 4 West Dec. 13, 2002 aboard a Titan II space launch vehicle. U.S. Navy Photo by Richard Williamson, SPAWAR Public Affairs.

VANDENBERG AFB, Calif. – The Air Force Coriolis mission carrying the Navy Windsat polarimetric microwave radiometer and Air Force Solar Mass Ejection Imager continues to be processed for a 6:18 a.m. launch Sunday, December 15th.

All systems for the Titan II space launch vehicle and the Coriolis spacecraft are go for launch. The primary area of concern is the weather conditions that would violate flight rules. Vandenberg meteorologists are predicting a 70 percent probability of violating launch constraints (which would prevent the Titan II launch).

The Air Force Space and Missile Systems Center Detachment 12 Space Test Program in Albuquerque, New Mexico is the mission sponsor

and manager. The Space Test Program provides spaceflight opportunities for advanced Defense Department research and development experiments.

Should the launch occur on schedule, there is a webcast of the liftoff planned. There will be a time lag because of the networking used to bring this image to the web. The URL is:

<http://science.ksc.nasa.gov/payload/missions/coriolis/>

Vandenberg Public Affairs Office operates a launch update line at 805-606-1857. This service will have the latest launch information.

A photo of the Titan II Space Launch Complex is available on the SPAWAR home page at

<http://www.spawar.navy.mil>